

House Resolution

No. 61

Introduced by Assembly Members Keeley and Hertzberg

August 7, 2000

House Resolution No. 61—Relative to the labor strike at Basic Vegetable Products.

1 WHEREAS, Nearly 800 members of Teamsters Local
2 890 have been on strike at Basic Vegetable Products
3 (hereafter Basic) in King City, California, since July 7,
4 1999; and

5 WHEREAS, Basic's current demands include a
6 three-year wage freeze, the contracting out of numerous
7 bargaining unit jobs, the elimination of the workers'
8 pension plan, and a reduction of most of the workforce's
9 weekly hours to well under 40 hours per week; and

10 WHEREAS, On September 21, 1999, Basic
11 permanently replaced the striking workers and continues
12 to insist upon a settlement that will deny most of the
13 strikers the right to return to their jobs; and

14 WHEREAS, This strike has had tremendous economic
15 impact on King City, where Basic is the largest employer
16 and economic engine of the town of only 10,000
17 inhabitants; and

18 WHEREAS, The Teamsters Union has called for a
19 consumer boycott of the products produced by Basic
20 Vegetable Products and its parent company, Basic
21 American Foods, notably dried onion, garlic, vegetables,
22 potato products, and refried beans; and

1 WHEREAS, These products are widely distributed to
2 institutional food purchasers such as jails and prisons,
3 university and school cafeterias, and hospitals; now,
4 therefore, be it

5 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California,*
6 That the Assembly urges the State of California to cease
7 supporting Basic and the owners in this dispute through
8 state purchases of Basic products; and be it further

9 *Resolved,* That the Assembly calls upon Basic and its
10 owners to negotiate in good faith and to rescind the
11 permanent replacement of the strikers; and be it further

12 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
13 transmit copies of this resolution to the author for
14 appropriate distribution.

